

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of

TANIGUCHI

Serial No. To Be Assigned

Filed: August 30, 2001

For: PROJECTION EXPOSURE APPARATUS AND METHOD

Atty. Ref.: 972-85

Group: Not Yet Assigned

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

\* \* \* \* \*

August 30, 2001

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

In order to place the above-identified application in better condition for examination, please amend the application as follows:

**IN THE SPECIFICATION**

Page 1, before line 4 "BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION", please insert the following paragraph:

This application is a divisional of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/263,803, filed March 8, 1999, now US Pat. 6,312,859 pending, which is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application No. 08/871,881, filed June 9, 1997, abandoned, the entire contents of which are hereby incorporated by reference in this application.